STEWARDSHIP GRANT PROGRAMS for Nonprofit Conservation Organizations for Land Acquisition

<u>Authorization:</u> ss. 23.0917, 23.096, 23.092, 23.094, 23.17, 23.175, 23.27, 30.24, Wis. Stats.; ch. NR 51, Wis. Admin. Code

Budget: Variable; a minimum of \$7.5 million each year

Objective: Provide grants for the acquisition of land or easements for conservation purposes.

Eligibility: Nonprofit Conservation Organizations that have bylaws, charter, or incorporation papers that reflect as a purpose of the organization the acquisition of property for conservation purposes, and that are nonprofit corporations, charitable trusts, or other nonprofit associations that are described in section 501 (c) (3) of the internal revenue code and are exempt from federal income tax under section 501 (a) of the internal revenue code.

Level of Assistance: 50% matching grants.

Priorities:

- ♦ Acquisition of land that preserves or enhances the state's water resources, including land in and for the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway, land abutting wild rivers and wild lakes, and land along the shores of the Great Lakes.
- ◆ Acquisition of stream corridors.
- ♦ Acquisition of habitat areas.
- ♦ Acquisition of natural areas.
- ♦ Acquisition of land for state trails, including the Ice Age National Scenic Trail.

Eligible Types of Projects: Fee simple and easement acquisitions.

Applications: Application forms are available from the DNR regional Community Service Specialists.

<u>History:</u> Since its inception, the Stewardship Program has provided approximately \$14 million in grants to nonprofit conservation organizations.

See Also: Urban Green Space, Urban Rivers and Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks, and Acquisition of Development Rights Programs.

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DNR regional Community Service Specialists; see pages 95-98.

Website: www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/cfa/LR/stewardship/stewardship.html

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